

Juduser

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 14, 2022 8:15 AM
To: JudTestimony
Subject: Opposition to SB16, HB5416; Support for SB388, HB5415, 5412

Dear Distinguished Members of the Judiciary Committee:

I expect that much discussion today will be focused on SB16 so I would like to take this opportunity to focus on HB5416, An Act Concerning Bulk Purchases of Pistols and Revolvers. It is important to be clear with this committee that the title is a misnomer as it does not merely concern the purchase of pistols and revolvers.

I would like to share with you the situation that my family found ourselves in when my father tragically passed away in a sudden accident. He had, over his lifetime, owned what would be considered a small collection to any avid enthusiast. He never earned a proper college degree but worked tirelessly to provide for his family. His one recreation was in his firearms and marksmanship.

When he was suddenly gone, my mother found herself alone and uncomfortable. Very shortly after he passed away, a local newspaper ran a story publishing the home addresses of permit holders in our county, which attracted many readers as was certainly the intention. Now my mother was in fear that she, as a single widow learning to be alone for the first time, would be targeted for a possible home invasion as it was known to the public what was inside my childhood home.

It was essential that I lawfully transfer my father's collection and move them, along with a large safe, etc to my own home quickly. In the State of Connecticut, we went through all of the proper means. We called DESPP together and acquired a unique authorization number to lawfully transfer each firearm. Under HB5416, this would not be possible.

You see, this bill does not say that it limits just sales. It restricts all transfers.

I would like you to think of the individual looking to remove firearms from their homes for other safety reasons. If passed, SB5416 will prohibit law abiding gun owners from taking action to make their homes and families safer should firearms need to be in the possession of another. Many of the statistics you will hear today are regarding suicides- which constitute 2/3 of all firearms related deaths. If an individual seeking help is unable to pass their firearms to a loved one or other trusted law-abiding resources, SB5416 makes it MORE LIKELY that tragedy will occur. This is the antithesis of common sense.

I hope you will think of the repercussions on real people who actually live with these concerns and vote in favor of safe decisions.

I further oppose SB16 and support SB388, HB5415 and HB5412.

Thank you
Holly Sullivan

President, Connecticut Citizens Defense League